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Message Text

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11/21
ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 SCA-01 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-11 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 PA-04

PRS-01 SP-03 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 FBIE-00

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O 250527Z APR 74
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1951
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL SURABAYA IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL SYDNEY IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL MEDAN

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (LAST SENTENCE PARA. 4.)

TOKYO FOR FAA

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRN,ASAF,US,ID
SUBJECT: CIVAIR: PANAMERICAN CRASH

REF : JAKARTA 4971

UPON RETURNING APRIL 25 FROM OVERNIGHT TRIP TO
BALI AT INVITATION MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS, WHICH INCLUDED
FLIGHT OVER CRASH SITE,
VISIT TO BASE CAMP AT TINGA TINGA, AND DIS-
CUSSIONS WITH GOI OFFICIALS LEADING RESCUE
RECOVERY OPERATIONS, AMBASSADOR REPORTS FOLLOWING
POINTS OF INTEREST:

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1. WHILE INITIAL REPORTS SUGGESTED ALL OR MOST

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REMAINS PROBABLY BROKEN OR MUTILATED BEYOND
RECOGNITION, INDONESIAN TEAMS AS OF LATE APRIL 24
HAD FOUND ABOUT 40 BODIES IN RELATIVELY WHOLE STATE,
AS WELL AS 30 BODY TRUNKS. ALTHOUGH ALL ARE
BURNED BEYOND RECOGNITION, THERE WOULD SEEM TO
BE FAIR POSSIBILITY OF IDENTIFICATION THROUGH
FINGERPRINTS AND TEETH. AMBASSADOR STRESSED TO
INDONESIAN OFFICIALS THE IMPORTANCE OF THESE TWO
PHYSICAL FEATURES FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES AND
SAID ALL THAT COULD BE DONE TO PRESERVE SUCH
FEATURES WOULD BE OF GREAT ASSISTANCE TO FBI TEAM
ARRIVING APRIL 26.

2. INDONESIAN TEAMS CONTINUE TO LOOK FOR FURTHER
REMAINS. NUMBER NOW INVOLVED IN THIS EFFORT AT
CRASH SITE TOTAL ABOUT 240 -- MOSTLY ARMY AND POLICE
BUT ALSO BOY SCOUTS AND LOCAL VILLAGERS. MAIN
WRECKAGE OF PLANE AND MANY OF REMAINS ARE AT BOTTOM
OF A STEEP RAVINE (ALTITUDE OF ABOUT 4,300 FT). IT
WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE TO USE HELICOPTERS TO EXTRICATE
EITHERWRECKAGE OR REMAINS. ONLY WAY TO GET THINGS
OUT IS BY USING ROPE AND THEN CARRYING BY HAND DOWN
TO BASE CAMP AT TINGA TINGA (THE TRIP FROM CRASH
SITE TO TINGA TINGA REQUIRES MINIMUM OF 6 TO 7
HOURS). FROM BASE CAMP, REMAINS WILL BE FLOWN BY
HELICOPTER TO DENPASAR.

3. AMBASSADOR ENCOURAGED GOI OFFICIALS TO HAVE
RESCUE PERSONNEL KEEP RECORD OF AREA AT CRASH SITE
WHERE EACH BODY/REMAINS IS FOUND BUT IT IS DOUBTFUL
THIS WILL BE FEASIBLE TO ANY GREAT EXTENT IN
PRACTICE.

4. JAPANESE CONSUL GENERAL IS IN BALI AND WILL SOON
HAVE ON HANDS SOME 60 RELATIVES OF JAPANESE CRASH
VICTIMS (ARRIVING FROM TOKYO EVENING OF APRIL 25).
CONGEN WAS QUITE AGITATED WITH GOI OFFICIALS BECAUSE
OF THEIR UNWILLINGNESS TO ABIDE BY HIS INSISTENT
REQUEST THAT JAPANESE VICTIMS BE SET ASIDE AT CRASH
SITE TO BE VIEWED BY RELATIVES FOR IDENTIFICATION
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PURPOSES. HE WAS APPARENTLY PERSUADED SUCH PROCEDURE
WAS IMPOSSIBLE. AMBASSADOR ALSO TOLD CONGEN THAT
WE HAVE FBI IDENTIFICATION EXPERTS ARRIVING APRIL 26
AND THAT IT WOULD BE VERY USEFUL TO THEM IF GOJ COULD
SECURE AND PROMPTLY FORWARD TO BALI FINGERPRINT
AND TEETH RECORDS OF CRASH VICTIMS.

FOR TOKYO: BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF SOMEONE

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FROM EMBASSY OR FAA COULD REINFORCE AMBASSADOR'S
SUGGESTION BY CONTACT WITH APPROPRAITE JAPANESE
AUTHORITIES.
NEWSOM

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Draft Date: 25 APR 1974
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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